

REMARKS

Applicant requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-36 are pending in this application, with Claims 1, 9, 15 and 26 being independent.

Claims 15 and 26 have been amended. Applicant submits that support for the amendments can be found in the original disclosure. Therefore, Applicant submits that no new matter has been added.

The Examiner originally contacted Applicant's representative by telephone to make a restriction requirement. The Examiner indicated by telephone that Group I consisted of Claims 1-14, 35, and 36 and Group II consisted of Claims 15-34. The Examiner also indicated that if independent Claims 15 and 26 were amended to include the features of generating compressed and non-compressed data, similar to independent Claims 1 and 9, then all of the claims would be considered.

Applicant decided to amend Claims 15 and 26 as suggested by the Examiner, so that all of the claims would be examined. However, the Examiner's deadline for taking action on the application did not permit him to wait for such a Preliminary Amendment. Therefore, the Examiner extended Applicant the courtesy of issuing the restriction requirement in writing.

Applicant notes that the written restriction requirement indicates that Claims 35 and 36 are part of Group II, rather than Group I. Since Claims 35 and 36 both depend from Claim 1, Applicant believes that Claims 35 and 36 properly belong to Group I (as originally indicated by the Examiner via telephone), and that the inclusion of those claims in Group II in the written

restriction requirement was merely a typographical error. Accordingly, Applicant requests that Claims 35 and 36 be considered as part of provisionally elected Group I.

Moreover, since Claims 15 and 26 have been amended to recite the features of generating compressed and non-compressed data, in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, Applicant submits that all claims pending in this application should be considered together.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant requests consideration of all claims and an early Notice of Allowance.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. L. Klock', is written over a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicant
Brian L. Klock
Registration No. 36,570

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
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